

CHAPTER 4

UNIT MOVEMENT OPERATIONS**4-1. Unit Readiness**

The veterinary unit commander is responsible for the readiness of his unit to conduct unit movement. The attainment and maintenance of required readiness conditions for unit movement are a mission-essential requirement for all veterinary units. Veterinary units must maintain a readiness posture that will allow immediate assembly and unit movement under emergency conditions within a specified time frame, on orders from higher headquarters. Units are routinely alerted through command channels using established readiness condition stages of alert and recall procedures. The unit commander must be prepared to deploy the unit or redeploy from the operations site. This chapter contains guidance for the preparation and execution of the unit movement plan. In preparing a detailed movement plan, the commander should consult AR 220-10, FM 100-5, and all pertinent local directives. (AR 55-113 governs the movement of units within CONUS.)

4-2. Planning

Planning the movement of a veterinary unit is continuous. It begins long before the actual move, continues during preparation for the move, and goes on until the move is completed. The veterinary unit commander should review existing movement plans, standing operating procedures (SOPs), and loading plans for completeness and correctness. The unit must be fully aware of all marshaling, staging, and holding areas. If the unit is newly activated or has no plans, the commander should prepare movement plans, including SOPs and loading plans. Specific actions are detailed in Appendix E, Unit Commander's Checklist for Planning Unit Movement.

4-3. Warning Order

The first indication that a unit will move may be the receipt of a warning order establishing the personnel shipment ready date (PSRD). Receipt of this order prompts several actions. The unit begins preliminary preparation for the move. The major Army commander gaining the unit furnishes preparation for overseas movement (POM) information to the appropriate losing major Army commander. The losing commander distributes required planning and equipment information to the appropriate units. Preparation for overseas movement information normally includes the unit's overseas Army post office designation and a listing of authorized items that need not be shipped with the unit. It also normally includes additional items that the overseas commander desires to have shipped with the unit, such as medical equipment sets (MESs) (veterinary large animal, field), authorized stockage lists, and expendable supply requirements. Additional actions to be taken by a unit commander on receipt of a warning order are shown in Appendix E.

4-4. Movement Directive and Movement Order

The movement directive is the authority for the movement of the unit and is the basis for all actions by all agencies concerned with the move. It is usually issued 90 days before the deploying unit's PSRD. Based on

this directive, the installation or activity issues a movement order for the deploying unit. This order implements the movement directive and provides additional instructions needed to prepare the unit for movement. In an emergency deployment (ED) or emergency deployment readiness exercise (EDRE), the movement directive and movement order may be received at the same time as the warning order, or shortly after the warning order. Any modification of equipment authorized by the MTOE should be included in the movement order along with a listing of equipment to be issued at the port of embarkation or in country, if applicable. Actions required on receipt of the movement order are outlined in Appendix E.

4-5. Unit Movement Plans

Unit movement plans contain up-to-date logistical data summarizing transportation requirements, priorities, and limiting factors connected with the unit's movement by highway, water, rail, or air. Contents of a movement plan may vary with the unit's contingency status, guidance from higher headquarters, and the effort the unit commander puts into preparing the plan. As a minimum, the unit movement plan should contain the following elements:

- a.* Detailed listing of personal baggage, organizational equipment (such as veterinary food inspection kits), expendable supplies (such as paper clips and penicillin), and nonexpendable supplies (such as air conditioners and gas anesthesia machines).
- b.* Organization for movement, including the procedures for movement of the staff, advance parties, and rear detachments.
- c.* Weapons accountability and security.
- d.* Responsibility and accountability of personnel.
- e.* Procedures to be followed at home station, en route, and at destination.
- f.* Unit loading plans (see paragraph 4-7).

4-6. Standing Operating Procedures for Unit Move

Many details relating to a unit move should be included in one or more unit SOPs. These SOPs include such things as duties of advance or rear detachments, convoy security (for motor move), and deployment procedures at destination. Although minor changes in an SOP may be required, basic procedures should vary little from move to move. Preparation of an SOP covering the details of unit movements relieves the commander of the necessity to repeatedly plan and issue directives for the conduct of operations that follow established patterns.

4-7. Unit Loading Plans

Unit loading plans include all the individually prepared documents that, when compiled, present in detail all instructions for the arrangement of personnel and the loading of equipment into unit vehicles. To ensure effective and expeditious movement of unit personnel and equipment, loading plans should be kept current. Loading plans should be based on authorized veterinary personnel and equipment. Loading plans should be prepared and maintained in each unit in anticipation of movement under contingency planning by various transportation modes.

a. Unit Loading Inventory and Checklist. This is prepared for each category of unit equipment such as vehicles, weapons, and veterinary MESSs. It is a numerical list of all containers (express containers and boxes) and vehicles to be shipped. In addition, all hazardous/controlled/sensitive items in the loading plan that could require special handling or restrictions for rail/air/vessel transport must be identified.

b. Unit Vehicle Loading Plan. This plan is used when the unit moves to a terminal for overseas movement using its organic vehicles. The plan identifies the personnel and equipment transported in each vehicle. The plan also includes convoy procedures and lists the common table(s) of allowances (CTA) equipment transported on each vehicle. The CTA equipment should be limited to that which is needed for mission completion.

c. Unit Train Loading Plan. This plan is used when the unit moves by rail. It shows the proposed distribution of personnel and equipment based on the railcars tentatively available for unit loading. It requires adjustment when an actual move is made and specific railcars are assigned. For detailed information, see FM 55-20, Technical Manual (TM) 55-2200-001-12, and TM 55-603.

d. Unit Air Loading Plan. This plan is used when the unit moves by air. The specific type of aircraft must be known before this plan can be prepared. It covers the type of cargo to be loaded in each aircraft, loading start time, estimated time to load, special equipment requirements, and other data pertaining to the specific aircraft. For detailed information, see FM 55-9, FM 55-12, and TM 38-250.

e. Unit Estimate of Aircraft Required. This is used to determine the number and type of aircraft required to airlift a unit's personnel and equipment.

f. Unit Vessel Loading Plan. This plan is used by units assigned to a mission that requires a lift by an Army TOE transportation boat unit. The assigned transportation boat unit must be contacted for specific requirements.